

STARTING THE DEFENCE.

CONTINUATION OF THE POLICE TRIALS.

CROSS-EXAMINATION OF MRS. THUROW FAILS TO SHAKE HER TESTIMONY—ONE WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE PUT IN A RIDICULOUS LIGHT BY MR. WELLMAN—TACTICS OF THE COUNSEL CONTRASTED.

The prosecution's testimony against Captain Doherty and ex-Ward Men Hock and Meehan was finished yesterday and the case for the defence was opened before the Police Commissioners. The entire morning session was occupied by Mr. Fromme and Mr. Grant in a long-winded and exhausting but utterly useless cross-examination of Mrs. Augusta Thurow, the principal witness for the prosecution. There were two things which prevented Messrs. Grant and Fromme from shaking Mrs. Thurow's testimony. First, she was a conscientious witness who to every appearance told the truth. Second, neither Mr. Grant nor Mr. Fromme had sufficient skill to confuse or confound her or to set at naught her good intentions. Indeed, Mrs. Thurow proved to be an excellent witness in all respects and when she was finally allowed to go her testimony against all three defendants remained unshaken.

A WITNESS'S DIFFERENT STORIES.

Mr. Wellman introduced only three or four other witnesses to prove the evil character of Mrs. Thurow's house. He had intended to call others, but they mysteriously disappeared or refused to remember after having been subpoenaed. One witness was tampered with yesterday between a conversation had by him with Mr. Osborne and his appearance on the stand a few minutes later. He told one story to Mr. Osborne and another story under oath on the stand. The Commissioners certainly are learning how the police force can be used to intimidate witnesses.

A policeman named Mallen was the only witness called by the defence before the hour of adjournment arrived. Mallen was formerly a ward man in the Fourteenth Precinct under Captain Doherty. Under Mr. Fromme's encouraging guidance he told how zealous he and the captain had been to close up all disorderly houses, especially Mrs. Thurow's place.

Mr. Wellman conducted a brief master cross-examination of Mallen and at the end of ten minutes he had the ex-ward man completely at his mercy and succeeded in making his testimony most valuable for the prosecution.

Whether the accused police officials are innocent or guilty, no one who watches the progress of the trial can help regretting that they are not represented by able counsel, by some one who could in a measure at least cope with the keen Assistant District Attorney who is conducting the prosecution. Mr. Wellman is as far apart from the legal profession. One represents all that is best of intellect, education, good breeding and self-control; the others about all that is objectionable from the absence or the deficient development of these qualities. One confines himself to business and does his work well—almost too well; the others indulge in abuse, and occasionally throw mud.

The trial will be continued at 10 o'clock to-day.

The temperature was decidedly more comfortable in the little courtroom at Police Headquarters yesterday than it was last week, and the discomfort attending a midsummer trial in such a place was at the minimum point. The Commissioners took their seats about 10:15 o'clock, and five minutes later Mr. Wellman appeared, accompanied by Assistant District Attorney Osborne, Mr. Grant, Mr. Fromme and H. A. Forster, counsel for the defence, were on hand promptly, with Captain Doherty, and ex-Ward Men Hock and Meehan, said beside their counsel. Captain Doherty, who has most to lose by a conviction, as his fall will be the greatest, as usual followed the testimony carefully, and frequently made suggestions to his lawyers. Hock, who is a stout German, seldom manifested any intelligent interest in the proceedings. Meehan kept his eyes on the witnesses, but never offered a suggestion.

GRANT SQUELCHED.

Mr. Wellman called for Mrs. Augusta Thurow as soon as the Commissioners signified that they were ready to proceed. Mr. Grant immediately rose and addressed the Commissioners.

Mr. Grant to the Commissioners—Are you going to have me make any further statement on that subject? I object to any sort of a statement from you on that subject.

Mr. Grant—For my own personal—

Mr. Grant—I insist—We don't want any statement from you on that subject.

Mr. Wellman objected. The Commissioners have not yet seen this man brought before the Supreme Court for contempt or before the Bar Association for disbarment.

Mr. Grant—Well, there's another newspaper statement.

Mrs. Murray—We don't want any news from you of what has appeared in the newspapers. We are not trying this case in the newspapers.

Mr. Grant, in spite of the prohibition of the Commissioners, started in to talk, and Mr. Martin ordered the stenographer to take no note of what Mr. Grant said on that subject.

Mr. Fromme then continued what he was pleased to call a cross-examination. It reminded one strongly of the idiotic questions asked by the small boy in the familiar story about the fly on the bald man's head.

"Oh, mamma, is that a fly on the bald man's head?"

"What makes the fly light on the bald man's head?"

"Do you suppose the fly likes to light on the bald man's head?"

"What makes the fly light on the bald man's head instead of on my head?"

"Do you suppose the fly would have as much fun in the bald man as he does have on the bald man's head?"

HE WAS TOLD TO TELL THE TRUTH.

Putting the fact which he wanted the witness to swear to into Luhns' mouth by the question, he tried to get the grocer to swear that Mr. Osborne had threatened to take him before the Superintendent. Luhns refused to swear to something. Luhns returned to the witness chair to identify the "blotters," or police records of the precinct. Mr. Wellman then read from the blotter entries showing that Mrs. Thurow's girls had been arrested, and that the proprietress of the disorderly house was accepted as bondsman for the girls. Entries of this sort were made on October 2, 7, 14, 19, 28 and 29, November 12 and 13, and on other days in 1893.

John Luhns, of No. 425 Central Ave., Brooklyn, New York, after he had had Mrs. Thurow arrested and found her in his shop, said to the reporter: "I am perfectly apprised of what Captain Doherty was doing to me. He was turned over to Mr. Grant."

Mr. Fromme, in an unsuccessful attempt to discredit Mr. Osborne by using Luhns, as he had used the Sanders woman to attack Mr. Wellman on Friday.

The trial was adjourned at 4 o'clock.

A UNION HEBREW PRAYER-BOOK.

COMPLETION OF THE WORK WHICH HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN FOR TWO YEARS.

One of the subjects considered by the conference of the Jewish Reformed rabbis recently held at Cape May, N. J., was the formulation of a union prayer-book for use in all reformed congregations.

The work was referred to the Editorial Committee, consisting of the Rev. Drs. Gustav Gottschall and Rudolph Grossman, of New York, the Rev. Dr. David Phillips, of Cincinnati, and the Rev. Dr. Jacob Vorberger, of San Francisco, and the Rev. Dr. Nathan Wissner, of Philadelphia.

Charles D. Buer, a check-set German, was next called. He told the court that Mrs. Thurow was disgusted when he found that no more questions were to be asked. He had a list of disorderly houses to which he had sold bottles of beer, and he thought the examination was to be like that of the Lexow Committee.

At 3:35 p. m. Mr. Wellman announced that the prosecution rested.

Mr. Fromme and Mr. Grant immediately began a vociferous protest to see which could put first to make a speech. Mr. Fromme managed to get his round shape about the table first, and with arms waving wildly and with a general hysterical manner he demanded that the charges against the defendants be dismissed because there was not "falsi scimilla" of proof against the three men. As soon as Mr. Fromme was exhausted Mr. Grant got up and introduced generally the reformed congregations as soon as it is issued.

WOULDN'T DISMISS THE CHARGES.

President Martin refused to dismiss the charges, whereupon Mr. Fromme called as the first witness for the defence. Policeman David J. Mallen, now of the Twenty-third Precinct, Mallen took the stand with a somber-faced and "goody-goody" air. One could almost see his halo. He was one of about thirty policemen who "saw the captain didn't do it" and have been subpoenaed by the defence. Mr. Fromme examined him. Mallen said that he had been assigned as a patrolman to the Fourteenth Precinct in 1888. He served as patrolman under Captain Doherty, and in April, 1893, he was made ward captain by him.

The Commissioners ruled that Mallen might tell the instructions the captain gave him, if that they would not hear anything about the judges. He said that when he became a ward man, Captain Doherty had told him that he suspected that the house kept by Mrs. Thurow, No. 23 Second-ave., was disorderly. The captain instructed him to get evidence against the house, if possible, and close it up. The captain

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All Grocers and Druggists, 25c.

Knapp's ROOTBEER EXTRACT

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FIRMAN AND THREE TRAMPS KILLED.

North Bend, Ohio, July 21.—The Chicago Express, No. 12, in the "Big Four," crashed into a freight engine at Griffiths about 6:30 this morning, killing the fireman and three tramps also badly injuring Engineer G. Differ on the freight train. Several passengers were also injured.

It will be some time before the orthodox congregations adopt the union prayer-book which has been perfected, but it is expected that it will be introduced generally in the reformed congregations as soon as it is issued.

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wouldn't have any such houses in the precinct. He had made several successful attempts to get evidence against the house. He had applied to the police for warrants, and was told that he could not have any unless he could prove that two women occupied one room.

This ruling was made in response to a suggestion from Mr. Wellman that if the defence wanted to hinder the captain by showing that the judges hindered the enforcement of the law, they would better call Mr. Wellman upon the police just as Mr. Wellman intended to answer this attack and it fell flat, as nobody paid any attention to it.

Mallen said that finally evidence was secured against Mrs. Thurow's house, not by himself, but by two assistants, and that she was fined by Justice McManam. As Mrs. Thurow was leaving the courthouse, he said to Mallen that she intended to apply to the business as usual.

Mr. Mallen's halo was almost visible to mortal eye when he had said all this. The casual observer might have thought that he was in a religious meeting and that Policeman Mallen was relating some "blessed experience."

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PAYERS OF BIG TAXES.

SOME INEQUALITIES IN THE LAWS.

THE ASSESSMENTS OF THE GOULD, ASTOR AND VANDERBILT FAMILIES—THE GOULD'S ATTEMPTED Evasion OF PERSONAL TAXATION.

What the tax rate will be this year will be a matter of speculation for the present. The Board of Aldermen has adjourned over to August 21, and when it meets again the Finance Committee of that body will make a report. It is not likely that the tax rate will be higher than it is at present, \$182 on \$100 of valuation. It may go a couple of points lower, for the assessed valuations of real and personal property have been sent up for 1894, in accordance with the Tammany Hall policy of increased assessments and a low tax rate. This Wigwam scheme has long since ceased to deceive any taxpayer.

At this session, when the Tax Commissioners make public the result of the year's work, managers of corporations and estates, and the wealthy taxpayers are much exercised. The ordinary business man has little interest in the tax rate or the operations of the Tax Board, nor is he much affected by the rate of tax save by the millionaires and the corporation lawyer.

One of the class of practitioners who have large experience in that branch of the law which relates to reviewing the action of the Tax Board in certain proceedings.

The assessments of the Tax Department are for the purpose of raising by taxation revenue sufficient to maintain the city government, and as a consequence such assessments are for revenue only. Whatever discretion there may be used by the tax commissioners in assessing the property of the unimproved real estate should be left its own portion and have no claims that would entitle it to be favored at the expense of that which is improved.

The real estate of the Astor family is the most important.

The real estate of the Gould family is the second most important.

The real estate of the Vanderbilts is the third most important.

The real estate of the Rockefellers is the fourth most important.

The real estate of the Morgan family is the fifth most important.

The real estate of the Belmonts is the sixth most important.

The real estate of the Whitneys is the seventh most important.

The real estate of the Harrimans is the eighth most important.

The real estate of the Morgans is the ninth most important.

The real estate of the Stuyvesants is the tenth most important.

The real estate of the Jays is the eleventh most important.

The real estate of the Schermerhorns is the twelfth most important.

The real estate of the Tuckers is the thirteenth most important.

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